

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Young and new producer forum to be held in Douglas

Young and new Wyoming producers have the opportunity to discuss the challenges of living and working in the agricultural industry at an upcoming forum.

The forum, entitled "Empowering Wyoming Agriculture," is presented by the Wyoming Board of Agriculture's Youth Advisory Committee. It will be held Monday, May 15 at the Wyoming State Fairgrounds Cafeteria in Douglas.

This forum is an opportunity for young producers to become involved in finding options and solutions for challenges facing agricultural producers.

Emily Horton, a member of the Youth Advisory Committee, is very excited about the opportunity to bring young producers together to discuss issues and brainstorm solutions.

"Young producers are the future of the Wyoming agriculture industry," Horton said. "This forum will establish ways to help these young producers with the challenges they are facing."

The forum is aimed at both young and new producers in Wyoming and will tackle topics such as estate planning, financial assistance, agency assistance, advocacy and involvement.

"We look forward to bringing a lot of key people together in Douglas," Horton said. A lot of proactive decisions will be made that will benefit not only young producers, but also the agriculture industry in Wyoming."

The forum will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will end by 5:30 p.m. The panel discussions will feature many notable speakers including Kermit Brown, Wyoming House of Representatives; Curt Meier, Wyoming State Senate; Lois VanMARK, State Director of USDA Farm Service Agency; Adolfo Perez, State Director of USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service; Del Tinsley, State Director of USDA Rural Development; John Etchepare, Director of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture; Cindy Garretson-Weibel, Agribusiness Director of the Wyoming Business Council; Dr. Frank Galey, Dean of the UW College of Agriculture; and many more.

For a complete agenda, a list of panelists or more information, please contact the Wyoming Department of Agriculture (WDA) at Lgriff@state.wy.us or (307) 777-7180. A link to forum information is also available on the WDA website at <http://wyagric.state.wy.us>. There is no cost for the forum and RSVPs are not necessary. Help us EMPOWER WYOMING AGRICULTURE! Attend this important forum!

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